Dear Bruce,

12/4/88

We are glad to hear that you are well and to see so vigorous a demonstration of it!

Fo us and at our age we are pretty good. I had a cataract removed a month ago and day after tomorrow, when I go back to Johns Hopkins I'll find out if t ey still think it went well. I can't read with my right or better eye yet, so please excuse the typos I fon't pick up. Type too small for the left eye. We had wondered what ws keeping you so busy. Glad you've finished the career book and can work on what you'd like now.

Glad you saw Chip Selby's excellent "Reasonable Doubt." Dave Wrone referred him to me a little more than three years ago and we've been friends and worked together since. He's a fine young man who listens, thinks and then does. He worked hard and long on that documentary, in October he was notified that he'd won the prestigeous CINE Golden Eagle award for the history division of thie annual competition and he got it a couple of nights ago in Washington. Hope the Post has a story on it today. Perhaps what he did would tell some of your students what they might be able to do if they go about it the right way, are not discouraged and are a little imaginative.

Besides his debt to the university he still owes, I'm sure, more than $15,000 over what A&E paid him. Not all that encouraging, huh? But he did persist while wearing a new car out with all the driving required. He borrowed wherever he could, including from family, girl friend (a beauty in all ways) and I think her father also loaned him some. Ecerybody had confidence in him except his faculty advisers. They displayed the usual scorn abd I think ridiculed the choice of subject some. You see, it was his master's thesis. When they saw his finished produced they became his fans and converts. Unfortunately they did nothing to attract attention to it or to him. I've been able to get him some good mentions, here, in the Balt, Sun and of all things, the Moonie Washington Times. The Post saw no story, as I'm sure they would have on any other subject. Fine young man. I was asked to speak at mount St. Marys about a half hour a way, couldn't, recommended him, he accepted and he was a smash hit. Instead of making a speech before ta,ing questions he showed his documentary. Dave and Jerry McKnight report the same excited reaction from their students. Dave in fact reports favorable reaction also from his sneering facylty. He's no longer some kind of nut to them. He had a little pizza party for Chip, his girl friend and Jerry McKnight while they were en route to the Mount....He brought me home from the hospital a month ago and may again Tuesday if I'm delayed too long to hold the medical transportation van the county provides with all those tired people. Fine young man and we like them both. Lil was quite taken by his Sandy.

All the rest was crap or worse. I'd expected a good show from British ITV and would not even have appeared on it with the assurance they would do no conspiracy theorizing. The extended the planned 90 minutes a half hour, junked good stuff to "solve" the crime and two of their alleged assassins came up with substantial alibis, one having been in the French Navy on a mine sweeper and the other in jail! I was most disappointed in Nova, where Bob Richter was deliberately dishonest. Still suffering from his old CBS syndrome. He was in on their early specials....Not only did Rather lie in what you quote, the one of their weekt of evening news segements I saw: t e polls said the exact opposite. He'll died with that same CBS syndrome....The Kwitny Report special aired only on WNYC-TV, public, in NYC, featured to self-important ignoramuses who pretend expertise they do not have and exploted the mafia-did-it myth. I've not seen it but heard the sound, taped by a friend who could hear it but not see it. David Scheim "Contract On America", and John H. Davis, "Mafia Kingfish," both lied to provide themselves with a phony nasis for ~~their~~ their untanable theorizing. Davis is so cheap a well-off bastard he hasn't even bothered to send me a copy og his book after I provided him with countless documents, took much time to answer his questions, and got him a hood student to spend quite a few hours searching my files and making copies for him. I'll not be hap y is he gives me credit, as th Jack Anderson show did. He lied, too, even about his supposed personal experience. I also got a student for him and she also made him many copies. His show was produced by Sanban Productions

in Los Angeles. Jack did lend his voice!

Thanks for the Boston Glode magazine piece on Paul Hoch, whose reported melonry with the Nobel physicist was scientifically deficient. Alvarez was an apologist for the lfficial mythology from the first. He even stuck the government, through the grant where he works, rather worked, he died, charging even reprints to the Atomic Energy Kommission. And leaving a written record that it cluld get "The Golden Fleece Award." I got it under ~~XXXX~~ FOIA. Remember Senator Proxmire's month commemoration of waste? [illegible]

I'm glad to get it for another reason: it explains why I've heard nothing about a large story the paper was to run that Sunday. It was sent by States News, which interviewed a number of us. I've not seen it by the reporter phoned to get more info on my background and then told me they'd asked because they were using it and it featured me. Once the paper found it was having the mag. feature it could not run two similar pieces. Author of the Hoch piece is a man who'd been in a group I'd criticized extensively. They went around ripping of the scholastic mind while they ripped off the purse with the wildest nonsenset that, of course, the kids loved, knowing no better.

Lifton is a commercializing, egomaniacal monster as bright as he is unscrupulous. No single part of his conspiract theory stacks and all the rest, written in his book to tell the reader that he discovered sex and invented the wheel, was published previously, in almost all instances by me. He got the photos from the Navy photog. who printed them, I understand, and as used in the reprint are mere exploitation, I've been told.

The reaction you get, that people don't care, is one I never get and the exact opposite of what I do get. Locally and from distant points, by letter and phone. Recently, too. I close with a recent one.

A woman phoned me from Florida. She told me she was four months old when JFK was killed and that in discussing the TV nostalgia with her father he told her that some years ago he'd bought a book at a garage sale she should read. It was Whitewash. She'd not have reached me by asking information for my phone. But she went to a bookstore to see if I'd written more, they didn't want to bother with it but from Bowker's directory gave her my address. Then she did phone. Full of praise and a determination to read the rest and they are packages and will be in the morning's mail. I remember some not then born, some quite young, including police officers, and they are not spouting Camelot.

And believe it or not, Marina Oswald just phoned me. We had a long chat.

Best,

Harold